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The Greatest City in the World

By William Wirt Mills



EASILY leading all American cities, disputing first rank with the more ancient cities of the Old World, New York City enters upon the second decade of the Twentieth Century and the third century of its own career. Conceding to London greater area and larger population, it yields no other point to the credit of the British Capital, which has been outstripped by New York in trade, foreign and domestic, in manufactures, in shipping, in wealth, in active capital, in enterprise, energy and enthusiasm.

Those who looked forward a decade ago to New York achieving the primacy among the cities of the earth, were regarded as afflicted with a sort of pardonable pride in their city, but to-day history is writing down as accomplished facts what then were regarded as flamboyant predictions.

With a population of 3,437,202 in 1900, New York now estimates its inhabitants at 4,711,956, its present growth at 400 persons a day. These are the figures for the 326.9 square miles embraced within the five boroughs that make up the corporate entity known as New York City.

But the real metropolis includes the 92 cities and towns that are clustered about the city proper. In this larger area of 680 square miles there were 5,265,060 inhabitants in 1905, more than 6,200,000 now. It is this population that is to be compared with the 7,537,196 people who are estimated as living in the 692 square miles of Greater London.

At the present rates of increase in the two cities, London will be outstripped by 1920, when the metropolitan district will include the homes of more than 8,000,000 people.

With eleven great railroad systems and 114 steamship lines focusing at the greatest harbor in the world, the Chamber of Commerce estimates that goods to the value of considerably over \$10,500,000,000 are borne annually upon the waters of the harbor, this huge total not including the large aggregate of freight handled by the railroads and not figuring in the harbor traffic.

This traffic was estimated in volume at over 150,000,000 tons, filling the holds of 10,759 ships in 1909, 4,501 of these being

engaged in foreign trade and 6,259 in coastwise traffic.

Though the foreign commerce of New York (\$1,521,966,090 in 1909) is but a fraction of the shipping of the port, it greatly exceeds the totals for the largest European ports—\$1,350,000,000 for Hamburg, \$1,300,000,000 for London, \$1,325,000,000 for Liverpool. And these ports have no domestic shipping comparable to the coastwise trade of New York.

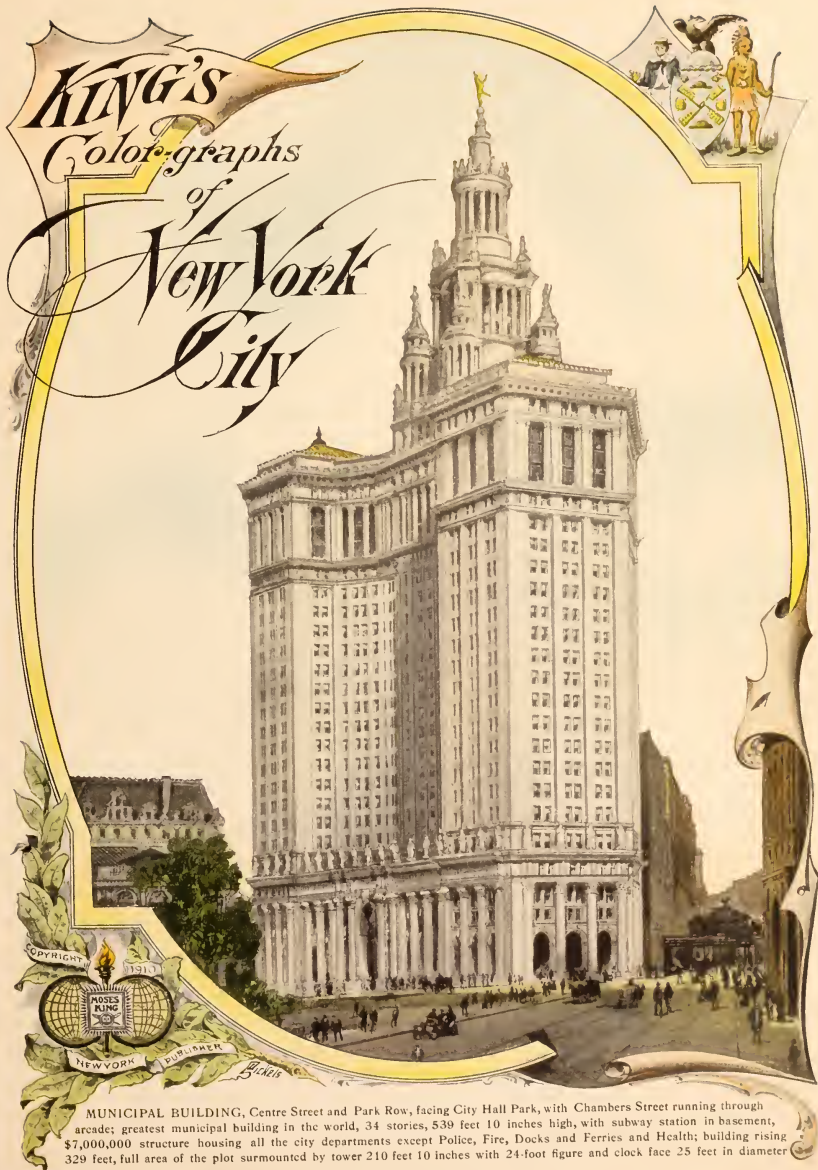
Unlike other great commercial cities, New York is also an industrial centre, the greatest manufacturing city in the whole world. Not only does the city trade in the products of all nations, but it produces nearly every sort of manufactured goods.

Within the limits of the city proper there are 27,283 factories and shops engaged in 297 lines of manufacture, representing an investment of \$1,529,946,487, a sum nearly half the total of the money in circulation in the United States.

In these industries there are 74,505 salaried people and 668,984 wage earners, making up an army of workers outnumbering the entire population of Liverpool. The pay rolls in the year foot up to \$450,549,366, or more than enough to buy the entire city of St. Louis, at the valuation put by the assessors upon that thriving hive of 800,000 people.

The materials used in New York's manufactures in a year exceed a billion in value, and the estimated wholesale price of the output of the city's industries in 1909 was \$2,248,440,436, or nearly four times the combined value of the manufactured goods exported in the same period by the two industrial nations, France and Germany.

In the making of women's clothing alone 96,162 people are employed, the output being worth \$261,049,287; 56,107 are engaged in printing and publishing, their product being valued at \$193,490,850; 51,983 hands make men's clothing worth \$178,236,370; 39,069 employes roll cigars and cigarettes estimated at \$80,983,352; 18,140 bakers make \$68,200,711 worth of bread and cakes; 29,727 milliners fashion \$61,450,945 worth of hats; the product of 22,081 men in foundries and machine shops is valued at \$45,634,627.



MUNICIPAL BUILDING, Centre Street and Park Row, facing City Hall Park, with Chambers Street running through arcade; greatest municipal building in the world, 34 stories, 539 feet 10 inches high, with subway station in basement, \$7,000,000 structure housing all the city departments except Police, Fire, Docks and Ferries and Health; building rising 329 feet, full area of the plot surmounted by tower 210 feet 10 inches with 24-foot figure and clock face 25 feet in diameter



CITY GOVERNMENT. (1) CITY HALL PARK, looking south on Broadway. (2) CITY HALL, seat of government of Greater New York, founded 1624, chartered 1653, 326.9 sq mi, 4,711,956 inhabitants, and Borough of Manhattan, 21.9 sq mi, 2,417,917 population; built 1803-12. (3) BOROUGH HALL, BROOKLYN, incorporated 1834, consolidated with New York 1898, 77.6 sq mi, 1,586,934 inhabitants. (4) BOROUGH HALL, QUEENS, 129.5 sq mi. (5) BOROUGH HALL, BRONX, 40.7 sq mi. (6) BOROUGH HALL, RICHMOND, 57.2 sq mi



PUBLIC BUILDINGS. (1) HALL OF RECORDS, Chambers St, \$10,000,000 granite structure. (2) BARGE OFFICE, Battery, where a million immigrants are landed annually. (3) Aquarium, Battery, formerly Castle Garden, world's finest collection of fishes. (4) BELVIDERE TOWER, Central Park. (5) BAND STAND, Central Park. (6) POLICE HEADQUARTERS, Centre St, 1909. (7) TRAFFIC SQUAD, City Hall. (8) APPELLATE COURT, Madison Sq. (9) CITY PRISON, Centre St, on site of Tombs. (10) CRIMINAL COURTS, Centre St



FEDERAL BUILDINGS. (1) NEW POST OFFICE, Eighth Ave, 31st to 33d St, 375 x 305 ft, basement 485 x 435 ft, over Pennsylvania terminal yard, elevators direct to railway mail cars. (2) SUB TREASURY, Wall and Nassau Sts, built 1834-41 on site of Federal Hall, where Washington was inaugurated; Custom House until 1862. (3) ASSAY OFFICE, oldest building in Wall St, erected 1823. (4) CUSTOM HOUSE, Bowling Green, built 1901-7 on site of Fort Amsterdam, cost \$7,200,000, the finest in world; striking sculptures on facade



FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. (1) STOCK EXCHANGE, Broad St, founded 1792; \$3,000,000 marble building, 1903. (2) NATIONAL CITY BANK, Wall St, greatest in America, chartered 1812, occupies old Custom House, built 1841, remodeled 1909. (3) J. P. MORGAN & CO, Wall and Broad Sts, offices of world's greatest financier. (4) UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK, Sixth Ave and 40th St, founded 1859; new building, 1910; 100,000 depositors. (5) CURB BROKERS. (6) WALL ST. CANYON. (7) CLEARING HOUSE, Cedar St, founded 1853



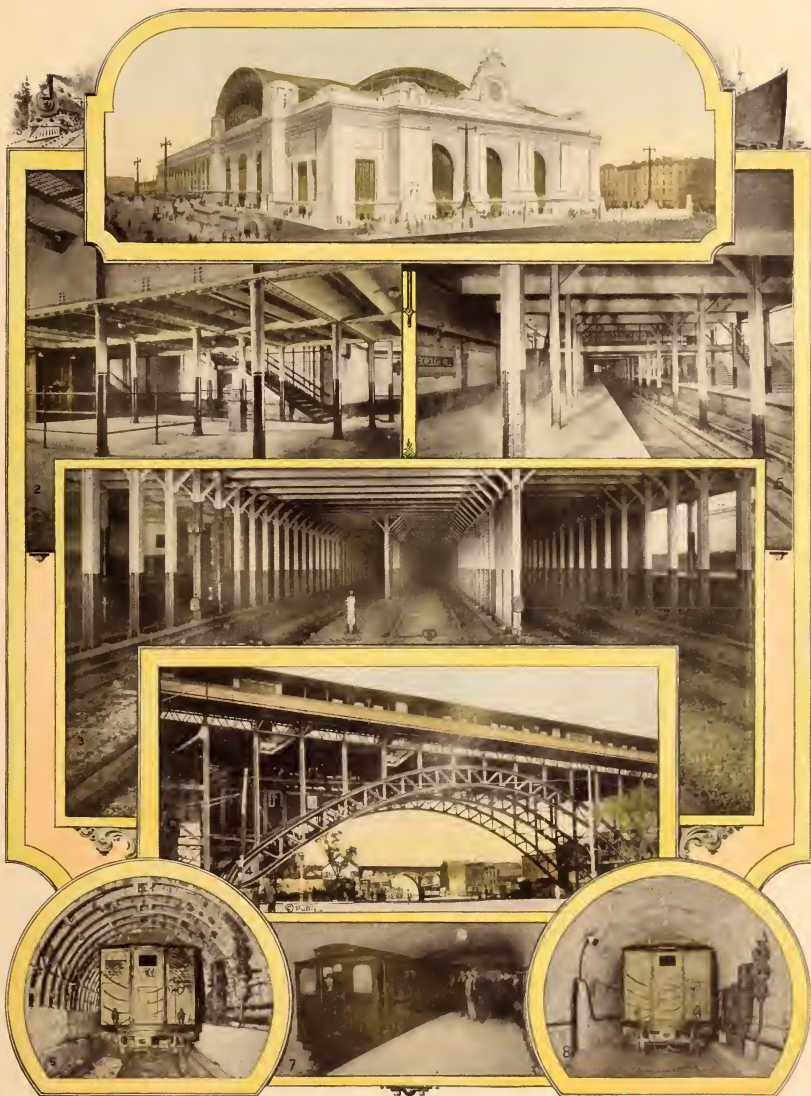
SKYSCRAPERS. (1) CITY INVESTING BUILDING, Broadway and Cortlandt St, largest office building under one roof, 13 acres floor space, 34 stories, 486 ft high. (2) WHITEHALL BUILDING, Battery Pl, 20 stories, 254 ft high, addition erected 1910, 31 stories, 416 ft high, 13.3 acres rentable space in combined buildings. (3) LIBERTY TOWER, Liberty and Nassau Sts, 31 stories, 401 ft high, greatest office area in world in proportion to plot, excellent light and ventilation. (4) HUDSON TERMINAL BUILDINGS, 30 to 50 Church St, 22 stories, 275 ft high



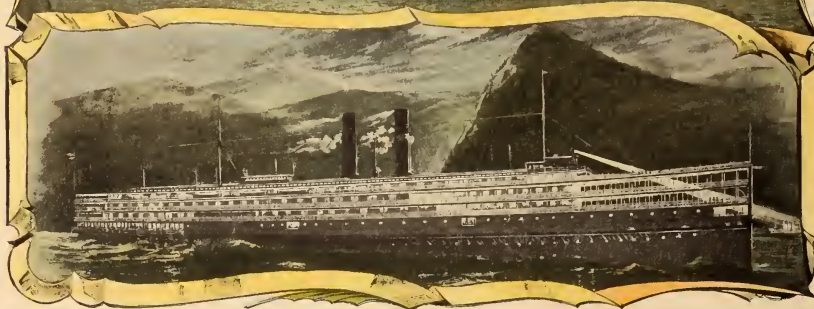
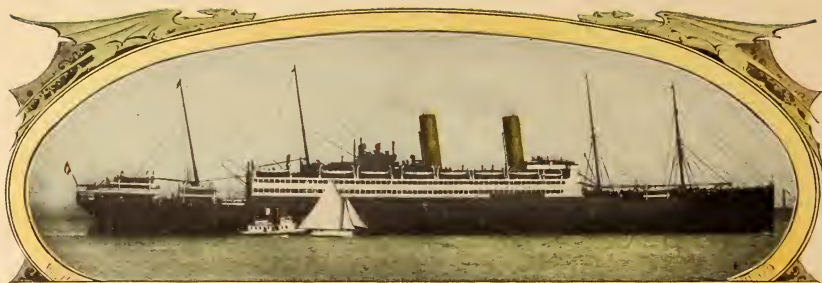
SINGER BUILDING, Broadway and Liberty St, with tower 47 stories, 612 ft high, triumph of steel-frame construction, resting on 36 caissons sunk to bedrock 92 feet below the street, 65 ft square, weighing 18,365 tons, rising 421 ft above main building, so braced as to withstand a wind pressure of 330 tons; 9 1-2 acres of floor space; office population 5,000; conspicuous from harbor, visible from the ocean, 20 miles away, when lighted at night, 14,500 electric lights; 10 miles steel columns. BAY from top of tower in background



PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD. (1) STATION, Seventh Ave, 31st to 33d St, largest in world, 784 x 430 ft, 21 tracks, cost \$12,000,000, \$90,000,000 system of tunnels under Hudson, Manhattan Island and East River, planned 1901, completed 1910, bringing Pennsylvania and Long Island trains to heart of metropolis. (2) ENTRANCE TO TUNNELS, 9th and 10th Aves. (3) UNDER 33d St, at Fifth Ave HERALD SQUARE, Macy's, Metropolitan Opera, Times, Hotel Astor, on west side of Broadway; Herald, 1835; Sixth Ave "L"



GRAND CENTRAL, E. 42d St; 300 x 680 ft, with yards 19 blocks; double decked, 49 tracks; New York Central and New Haven Railroads
 SUBWAY (2) 18TH ST STATION. (3) SPRING ST, five tracks. (4) MANHATTAN ST VIADUCT. (5) BOROUGH HALL STATION, Brooklyn.
 \$50,000,000 underground road built by city, leased to Interborough Rapid Transit Co, opened 1904, 800,000 passengers a day
 HUDSON TUNNELS. (6) STEEL SECTION under river. (7) JERSEY CITY STA. (8) CONCRETE SECTION. Four tubes under Hudson



STEAMSHIPS. (1) GEORGE WASHINGTON, North German Lloyd, 723 ft long, 78 ft beam, 28,000 tons, 2,950 passengers, 25,000 h p. (2) MAURETANIA, Cunard, largest and swiftest ship afloat, 790 ft long, 88 ft beam, 45,000 tons, 68,000 h p; record crossing Atlantic in 4 days, 10 hrs, 51 min, averaging 26.06 knots; best day's run 673 knots. (3) HENDRIK HUDSON, Hudson River Day Line, finest, swiftest steamer, 25 miles an hour, 5,500 passengers. (4) C. W. MORSE, largest river craft, 430 ft long, 452 staterooms, 2,000 passengers



BRIDGES. (1) HENDRIK HUDSON MEMORIAL, to be built from north end of Manhattan to Spuyten Duyvil. (2) NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY, to span Hudson from Washington Heights to Palisades. (3) WASHINGTON, over Harlem River, 1889. (4) BOW BRIDGE, Central Park. (5) CHELSEA PIERS, Hudson, 14th to 23d St, \$15,000,000 terminal. (6) BRONX RIVER, Bronx Park. (7) BROOKLYN BRIDGE, East River. 1883 '88. (8) MANHATTAN, 1910, 120 ft wide, greatest capacity. (9) WILLIAMSBURG, 1903, 7,200 ft. (10) QUEENSBORO, 1908



SKYSCRAPERS OF LOWER MANHATTAN, view of the business centre of the world, from the New York Life Insurance Building at 346 Broadway to the Hudson River to Prospect Park and the Institute of Arts and Sciences, and in the distance Jamaica Bay, which is to be made a great supplemental harbor, 41 square miles in the world, from 12 to 47 stories in height, 30 of them over 20 stories, costing from one to sixteen millions each, all of them built since 1889, we call a minute, 8,000 pieces of mail. In these buildings, on the most valuable land in the world, are the headquarters of the greatest financial institutions.



Battery, showing the Hudson and East Rivers, with the Brooklyn, Manhattan and Williamsburg Bridges, and the business section of Brooklyn, from the East
 iles in extent, with 150 miles of piers. Along Broadway and Wall Street, and in other downtown streets are the greatest steel and granite skyscrapers
 g from 30,000 to 200,000 tons each, providing working space for an office population of 500,000, visited daily by 1,000,000 people, 15,000 telephone
 s, railroads, steamship lines, manufacturing concerns, mercantile companies and other enterprises representing an investment of \$250,000,000,000



METROPOLITAN BUILDING, Madison to Fourth Ave, 23d to 24th St; it is the tallest building in the world, 52 stories, 700 ft high; home of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, organized 1868, greatest industrial insurance company in this country, over 10,000,000 policies

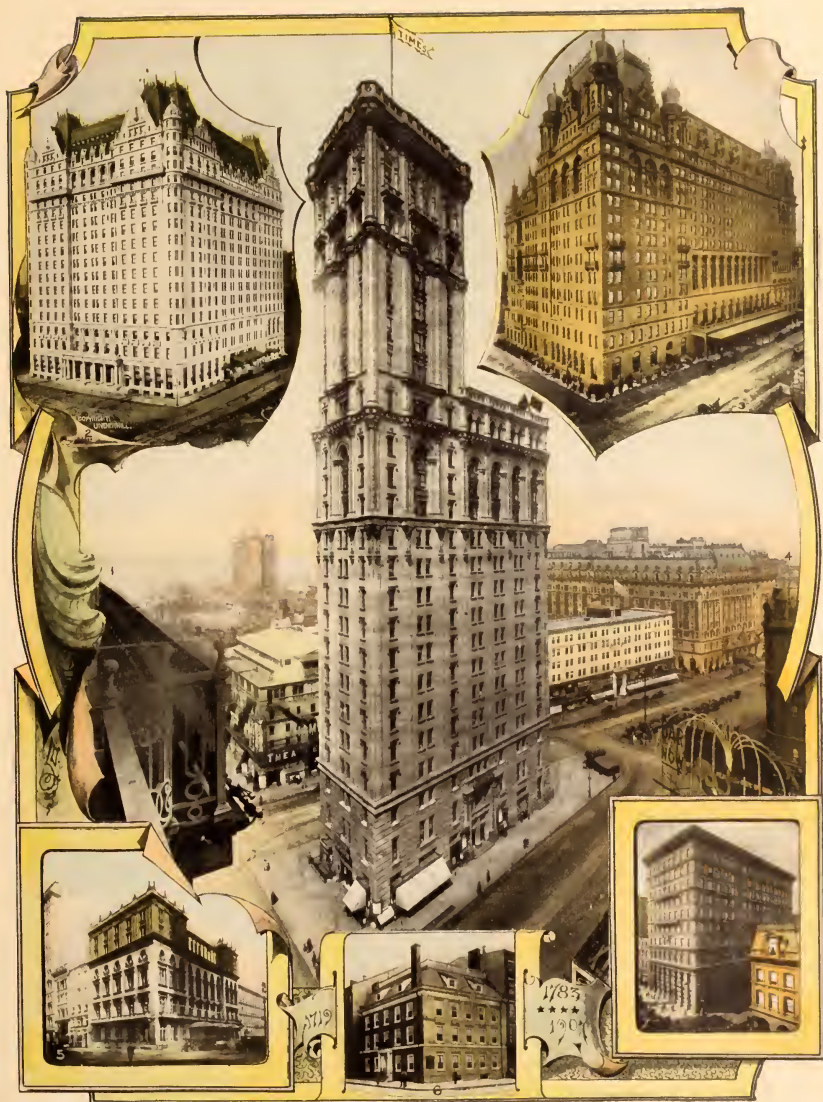
VIEWS FROM TOWER, covering circle with a radius of 20 miles. (1) NORTH. (2) NORTH EAST. (3) WEST, Hudson River, New Jersey. (4) NORTH to Palisades. (5) EAST, Blackwell's Island, Queensboro Bridge, East River. (6) SOUTH to skyscrapers of financial district



THOROFARES. (1) PLAZA AND FIFTH AVE, Hotels Netherland, Savoy, St. Regis, Gotham, Plaza. (2) UNION SQUARE, west. (3) AMERICAN REAL ESTATE CO Office Building, Night and Day Bank, Fifth Ave looking south. (4) MADISON SQUARE, Garden, Appellate Court, Madison Ave (Parkhurst) Church, Metropolitan, Flat-Iron, Fifth Ave Buildings. (5) BROADWAY north from Bowling Green. (6) 42d St west from Grand Central, Manhattan Hotel, Times. (7) FIFTH AVE north from 33d St, Waldorf, Knickerbocker Trust, Brick Church



GREAT STORES. (1) R. H. MACY & CO, Broadway and 34th St, founded 1858, first department store, 26 acres. (2) SIEGEL COOPER CO, Sixth Ave, 18th to 19th Sts, "The Big Store," founded in Chicago 1876, New York 1896. (3) GIMBEL BROTHERS, Broadway, 32d to 33d Sts, at Pennsylvania RR and Hudson Tunnel Terminals. (4) WANAMAKER'S, Broadway, 8th to 10th Sts, tallest store in world; also largest, including old Stewart building. (5) TIFFANY'S, Fifth Ave and 37th St, famous jewelry house, founded 1837

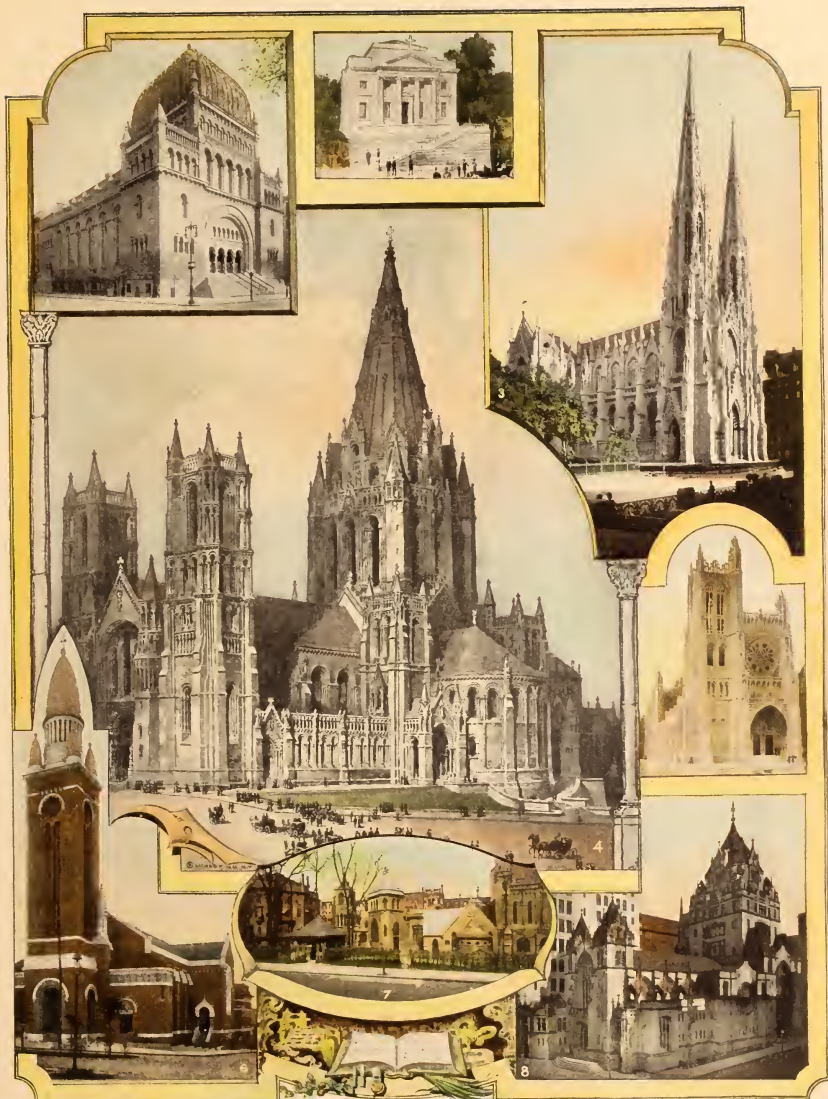


TIMES BUILDING, Times Square, 362.7 ft above curb, 61 ft below, Subway through basement; New York Times, founded 1851.

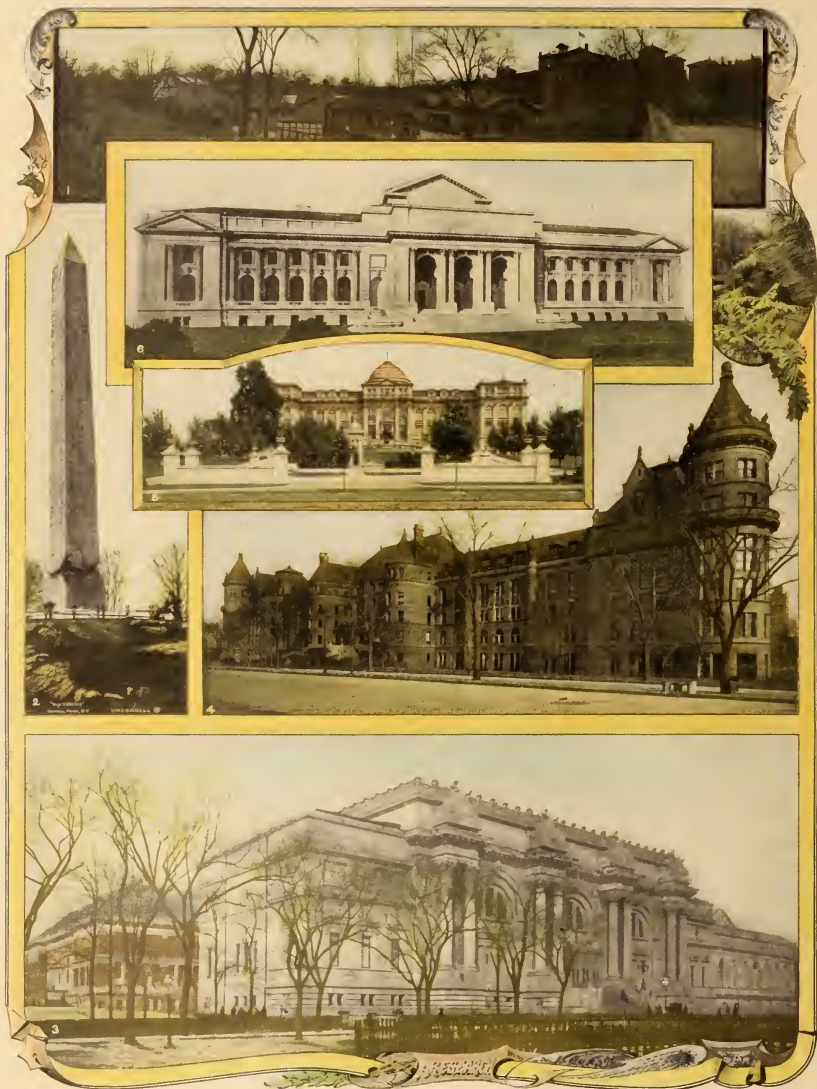
HOTELS. (2) **PLAZA**, 252 ft high, largest and most costly, \$12,500,000. (3) **WALDORF ASTORIA**, 214 ft high, 1,400 suites. (4) **ASTOR**, 1,000 suites, banquet hall seating 1,200. (5) **DELMONICO'S**, famous American restaurant, founded 1823. (6) **FRAUNCE'S TAVERN**, Broad St, built 1719, scene Washington's Farewell Address, 1783, restored 1907. (7) **SHERRY'S**, restaurant, bachelor apartments



RESIDENCES. (1) SKATING, Central Park, apartments in background. (2) APARTMENTS, Central Park West, 69th St north. (3) BELNORD, largest apartment house in world. (4) UNIQUE FIFTH AVE HOMES. (5) LORILLARD MANSION, Bronx Park. (6) VAN CORTLANDT MANSION, built 1748, historical museum. (7) CHARLES M. SCHWAB RESIDENCE, Riverside Drive, 73d to 74th St. (8) ANDREW CARNEGIE, Fifth Ave, 91st to 92d St. (9) J. PIERPONT MORGAN, Madison Ave and 36th St. (10) W. A. CLARK, Fifth Ave and 77th St



CHURCHES. (1) TEMPLE BETH EL, Fifth Ave and 76th St. (2) CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, W 156th St, Spanish. (3) ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, Fifth Ave, 1858-79, 400 x 180 ft, 334 ft high. (4) CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, Morningside Heights, begun 1892, 520 x 288 ft, 445 ft high. (5) ST. THOMAS', Fifth Ave, 1823, burned 1906, rebuilt 1910. (6) ST. MICHAEL'S, Brooklyn, 1857. (7) TRANSFIGURATION, "Little Church Around the Corner," W 29th St. (8) BROADWAY TABERNACLE, 56th St, 1840



MUSEUMS. (1) CENTRAL PARK, 839.9 acres, purchased 1857-63 for \$5,028,844; worth \$200,000,000; scene in Zoo. (2) OBELISK, 200-ton monolith, erected at Heliopolis 1500 B. C., in Central Park 1880. (3) METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, founded 1871, five buildings completed of group to cost \$20,000,000. (4) AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, founded 1869, collections worth \$10,000,000. (5) BOTANICAL MUSEUM, Bronx Park. (6) PUBLIC LIBRARY, Fifth Ave, 40th to 42d Sts, 1849, \$6,000,000 building, 1910



COLLEGES. (1) COLLEGE OF CITY OF NEW YORK, 1847, built 1905. (2) COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, W 116th St, \$13,000,000 group erected since 1892, founded 1754. (3) COLUMBIA, Broadway front. (4) COLUMBIA LABORATORIES. (5) MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL, Bronx. (6) SCHOOL OF APPLIED DESIGN FOR WOMEN, Lexington Ave. (7) DE WITT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL, Tenth Ave. (8) NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, 1829. (9) UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 1836, new buildings, 1910. (10) BARNARD COLLEGE, 1889



MONUMENTS. (1) LIBERTY STATUE, New York Bay, 306 ft high, by Bartholdi. (2) SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ARCH, Prospect Park. (3) WASHINGTON STATUE, Union Sq. (4) CHESTER A. ARTHUR, Madison Sq. (5) SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT, Riverside Park. (6) WASHINGTON ARCH, Washington Park, Stanford White. (7) SHERMAN, Plaza, St. Gaudens. (8) NATHAN HALE, City Hall Park. (9) FRANZ SIGEL, Riverside Drive. (10) GRANT'S TOMB, 160 ft high. (11) GEN. JOSIAH PORTER, Van Cortlandt Park



PARKS. (1) BETHESDA FOUNTAIN, Central Park. (2) BOAT POND, Central Park. (3) DUTCH GARDENS, Van Cortlandt Park; 1,132 acres. (4) MACMONNIES' WILD HORSES, Prospect Park, Brooklyn; 516 acres. (5) LILY POND, Botanical Gardens, Bronx; 250 acres. (6) FALLS, Bronx River. (7) BANANA PALMS, Botanical Gardens. (8) FERNS, Conservatory Dome. (9) ZOOLOGICAL PARK, Bronx, 261 acres. (10) GIRAFFES. (11) WAPITI. (12) LION HOUSE. (13) BEARS. (14) ELEPHANT HOUSE. (15) ELEPHANT



ARMORIES. (1) SEVENTH REGIMENT, Park Ave, 66th to 67th Sts, organized 1806. (2) 71ST REGIMENT, 1852, new armory 1906, 263 ft high.

AMUSEMENTS. (3) MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE, 34th St near Eighth Ave. (4) NEW THEATRE, Central Park West, 62d to 63d Sts, finest playhouse in the world, seats 2,318. (5) HIPPODROME, Sixth Ave., 43d to 44th Sts, largest in world, seats 5,200, stage 200 x 120 ft.

CLUBS. (6) ELKS CLUB, 43d St near Sixth Ave, built 1910. (7) AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, Broadway and 156th St

The Greatest City in the World

Continued

Having outdistanced all rivals in commercial conquest and industrial enterprise, New York has become one of the four financial centres of the world, ranking with London, Berlin and Paris as a money market.

The banking power of New York is estimated at \$4,553,700,000, which is 26 per cent. of the \$17,642,700,000 that represents the resources of the 21,000 banks of the entire United States and 10 per cent. of the \$45,750,300,000 banking power of the whole world.

The average volume of actual cash in the banks of New York is half a billion, which is 14 per cent. of all the money in the United States, and more than one-third of all the cash held in all the banks of the country. Nearly a quarter of all the money in circulation in the United States is in New York.

In the New York Clearing House the exchanges in 1909 amounted to \$103,588,738,320, an increase of 30.6 per cent. over 1898, while the record of the London Clearing House in 1909 was \$65,868,922,000, or \$37,719,816,320 less than New York, and London's increase in eleven years was only 11.5 per cent.

In the past decade the country's wealth has increased 30 per cent., while New York realty values have advanced 108 per cent. New York's land and buildings are estimated as worth \$8,104,481,155, while the assessments of property in Greater London foot up to barely \$290,000,000.

While the municipal budget for 1910 is \$163,128,270, the actual expenditures will foot up to something over \$170,000,000, which is the estimated cost of the government of Greater London. While the municipal debt is \$713,637,668, this is offset by the fact that the city owns real estate and revenue producing properties such as docks, water works and subways, to the value of \$920,499,760, including parks and public buildings valued at \$435,342,205.

New York's public schools have 730,234 pupils, with an average attendance of 574,664 as compared with 649,136 in London, with a teaching force of 17,073 in New York and 18,562 in London. The city's school houses are worth \$92,233,825, and the

cost of maintaining the system in 1909 was \$31,073,753, as compared with \$22,000,000 expended upon the London schools.

Passengers are carried on the local railways of the city at the rate of a billion and a half a year, as compared with 1,400,000,000 in London, and 875,000,000 in Paris. There are 3,366 trains to and from the city daily, carrying 650,000 passengers, and 600,000 people daily cross the East River bridges.

The New York Post Office, serving only Manhattan and The Bronx, in 1909 handled 2,410,743,448 pieces of mail, while the London Post Office, covering a much larger area, in 1908 handled only 1,694,000,000 pieces. The receipts of the New York Post Office in 1910 exceed \$22,000,000, one-tenth of the revenues of the United States.

For the accommodation of the largest transient population to be found anywhere in the world, averaging 200,000, and the largest permanent hotel population, 100,000, New York maintains over 700 hotels, representing an investment of \$243,000,000, and capable of entertaining 300,000 people without crowding. And over a half billion is spent annually in the city's 5,300 restaurants and 700 hotel dining rooms. The annual food supply of the city is estimated as costing \$1,750,000,000.

The growth of New York is vividly illustrated by its building statistics, 102,561 new structures having been erected in the past seven years at an estimated cost of \$1,313,079,318, a quarter of a billion having been expended in 1909, employing 50,000 men, the outlay being one-third of the total for the country's 92 largest cities.

Included in these figures were 21,502 apartment houses, which cost \$584,335,710, providing quarters for 258,024 families, and 54,371 dwellings, costing \$243,943,531.

These big facts but begin to tell the tale of the greatness of the city that has risen since that day, three centuries ago, when Hendrik Hudson sailed up the river named after him, and saw the wigwams of the Indians on the wooded island that now holds the tallest and the largest buildings and is the centre of the greatest business interests of the whole world.

OVER 150

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